



## Kentucky Personnel Cabinet Office of the Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Robin C Hartman**  
**502-564-6552**  
**Pamela Trautner**  
**502-564-4240**

### Media Notification

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Jan. 4, 2016)** - On October 15, 2015, the Personnel Cabinet learned that a security breach occurred as a result of a successful phishing attack directed at Commonwealth of Kentucky employees. This incident impacted a total of four employees and did not result from a failure of the Commonwealth's network, e-mail, or human resource information system. Rather, it was a malicious phishing attack targeted specifically at system users. Phishing is the attempt to acquire sensitive information such as usernames, passwords, or financial information for malicious reasons by masquerading as a trustworthy entity in an email.

Immediately upon learning of the phishing attack, the Personnel Cabinet worked with the Commonwealth Office of Technology (COT) and the Kentucky State Police to address the breach. The Personnel Cabinet has since worked with the impacted employees to mitigate the situation and secure all personal information.

The Personnel Cabinet and COT take these threats very seriously and employs technologies to help reduce these risks. In November 2015 alone, COT blocked more than 500,000 spam and phishing emails. COT also provides educational tools to employees to increase awareness and help employees avoid such attacks.

Employees are urged to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft, including reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports. The Commonwealth will continue to implement the strictest security safeguards and encourage employee awareness on such matters.

###

To learn more, contact the FTC and/or the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General:

Federal Trade Commission  
Consumer Response Center  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20580  
(877) 438-4338  
<http://www.consumer.gov>

Office of the Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(888) 432-9257  
<http://ag.ky.gov>

In addition, you can obtain additional information from the nationwide credit bureaus about fraud alerts and security freezes.

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 740241

Atlanta, GA 30374-0241

1-800-685-1111

Equifax.com

[https://www.freeze.equifax.com/Freeze/jsp/SFF\\_PersonalIDInfo.jsp](https://www.freeze.equifax.com/Freeze/jsp/SFF_PersonalIDInfo.jsp)

Fraud Alert

[https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraud\\_Online/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp](https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraud_Online/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp)

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9532

Allen, TX 75013

1-888-397-3742

experian.com

[http://www.experian.com/consumer/security\\_freeze.html](http://www.experian.com/consumer/security_freeze.html)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 6790

Fullerton, CA 92834-6790

1-800-916-8800

transunion.com

<http://www.transunion.com/personal-credit/credit-disputes/credit-freezes.page>